

# CALLS McDONALD AGARRULOUS SPHINX; TALKS, SAYS NOTHING

New Mexico Democrats Think They Are Entitled to Know Whether or Not He Is a Candidate; Can Get Nomination If He Wishes It But Refuses to Let His Wishes in the Matter Be Known.

BY GUTHRIE SMITH.

**A** LAMOGORDO, N. M., July 22.—With governor William C. McDonald still playing the role of garrulous Sphinx, the Democratic forces of New Mexico know as little now about who will be their nominee for governor as they knew three months ago. This is the opinion of one of the prominent politicians of the state. A part of his statement is "clear and simple," but the term "garrulous Sphinx" is enough to make anybody guess wildly. The Sphinx has been the emblem of unbroken silence almost from time out of memory, and to speak of a "talkative" Sphinx is to go the Chinese one better in the making of puzzles.

"What is it you mean when you say that governor McDonald is still a garrulous Sphinx?" I asked this worker of political problems.

"He can talk all day without saying anything, and frequently he does it," he answered. "I do not mean to say that he cannot say things when he desires to say things. When he is aroused to the pitch that he throws caution to the winds and disregards consequences; or when, for any other reason, he wishes to say things, he can talk either in conference or from the platform and say things with convincing force and vehemence. It is only when he is unwilling to say things that he can talk entertainingly all day without committing himself in a single important matter."

**McDonald's Friends in the Dark.**

The political and personal friends of governor McDonald declare that they do not know whether he is a candidate, or will be. A majority of them say frankly that they do not have the remotest idea as to what his plans are. Others lean to the belief that he would a great deal rather retire to private life and devote his time and attention to his personal business, which he has neglected for four and a half years. A few are firmly convinced that he does not want the office, and want to have the nomination tendered to him by the convention. There is a possibility that he would be satisfied to waive any claim to the nomination for governor and accept the post of national committeeman, to which A. A. Jones was selected by the Albuquerque convention, on July 24.

**Evident Mixup in Plans.**

There was evidently a mixup in the plans as regards this office. A. A. Jones, of Las Vegas, now first assistant secretary of the interior, and sure to be the nominee for the United States senate, held the position of national committeeman for eight years, and believes that the honor ought now to be given to some one else. He told me this in Las Vegas on May 22, just after the adjournment of the San Miguel county convention, which was only two days before the state convention in Albuquerque. He told me that he intended to retire and to urge that some one else be elected.

A. H. Crist was endorsed for the position by his home county of Rio Arriba, and it was generally believed

in some quarters that governor McDonald desired the honor. Crist certainly was willing for the lightning to strike him. By the way, he was Rio Arriba's only representative in the state convention, but he held the proxies of all the other delegates.

Whatever may have been Jones' desire to retire, he was reelected and an opportunity snatched to remove governor McDonald from the race to secure the nomination to succeed himself. It is almost a certainty that Jones will resign again as national committeeman, as soon as he has been nominated for the senate by the convention in Santa Fe, in August, and will resign also as first assistant secretary of the interior. Whether governor McDonald would accept the place at that time is one of the mooted points of the campaign and remains to be proved.

**McDonald's Silence Resented.**

"Governor McDonald's unreasonable attitude of silence is hurting the Democratic chances of success more than the Republican organization would be able to do," indignantly said an influential Democrat of the Pecos valley. "If he would say that he is a candidate, or will be a candidate, then we could go ahead and make such plans as we think would result in reelecting him. If he would say that he is not a candidate, then sentiment would begin to crystallize in other directions, and soon it would be possible for the party to determine in advance of the convention, with some degree of certainty, who will be the nominee, so that we could make plans and then work to them. If we are to be successful in this campaign, it certainly must be through an effective organization. We are still at sea as to who will head the ticket and therefore we are still without a campaign plan."

**Party Entitled to Know.**

"We need to put all our shrewdness and energy into our work, and then we will fail if our energy is misdirected. I do not know whether the governor wants to be reelected, but I know that the party is entitled to know something by this time about who is to be its nominee for the head of the ticket. The convention is only a few weeks distant, and we don't know any more now than we did three or four months ago. There may be a reason, and a good one, for shrouding all his plans in mystery, but I cannot imagine what that reason is. What the governor intends to do would not be of so great importance, if it were not for the fact that he is the titular head of the party. His word is almost law, the Democrats generally feeling that he is entitled to be reelected, if he so wishes."

**Can Get Nomination.**

The bulk of the sentiment of the state of New Mexico is this: McDonald may have the nomination again, if he wants it. That is he will not have any opposition within the party. Neither does the party contain any enthusiasm for him. A lot of the Democrats do not have much hope that he will be reelected, even if renominated. They will not oppose him, but at the same time, they do not show any eagerness to enlist under his banner.

## Russian Hero's Home Zemstvo Recognizes His Service in Unusual Way

Petrograd, Russia, July 22.—Here is how a hero is recognized in Russia. A sapper named Yegor Ivanovitch Sierov was killed after performing a heroic exploit and was awarded the St. George cross. The cross was handed to his mother by the chief of the zemstvo of his village, what might be called in America a village improvement society, in the presence of the village, or district, assembly.

The assembly resolved to display a photograph of the deceased knight in the village board room, to order two metal plates with a reproduction of the cross and a suitable inscription hung, one in the hero's former home and the other over the dead soldier's portrait in the board room, to appropriate money for the thorough repair of the Sierov cottage and a new iron roof, and to devote a fifth of the annual profits of the village, which included cooperative buying and selling features, as a prize to the most deserving parents of the villages of the village, who have distinguished themselves by a model family life, in whose home interesting lectures are not used and no bad language is employed, who inspire their children with love of country and native land, hard work, study, respect for all, kindness to animals and who bring up their children in the fear of God.

## MORE THAN 7000 AUTOS PAY TAX IN NEW MEXICO

Santa Fe, N. M., July 22.—The number of Automobile licenses issued has passed the 7000 mark with 13 to spare. Secretary of state Antonio Lucero has ordered more number plates and he is unable to supply the large number of new applicants until the new plates arrive. It is for this reason that some of the applicants have not received as prompt attention as heretofore.

Let the yellow wagons do it! Haul your fuel and feed; we treat you right. Southwestern Fuel & Feed Co., 511 N. Osborn St., Phone 531.—Adv.



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## Russian Nobility Cries to Dead Czar Paul I to Come Back in Miracle

Petrograd, Russia, July 22.—According to an inspired article in the "Den," a revival of the belief in miracles and the occult has arisen in Russia, under the influence of a great religious mystic movement.

This credence has even extended to the aristocracy and cultured spheres of society. Here are to be found believers that the long-dead Czar Paul I is gathering in the Russian nobility of both sexes and they cry and pray to his deceased majesty that he will appear to them in a miracle. Yarns without number of miraculous appearances and acts are quite the vogue in the salons of the great families.

## British Fliers Erect Altar of Broken Planes

London, Eng., July 22.—An altar has been erected on the flying field at Hendon, made entirely of parts of broken aeroplanes. It was built by the fliers themselves and stands in a little sanctuary in the Church of England recreation hut.

## Marlborough Students Pitch Hay for Farmers

London, Eng., July 22.—Three hundred students of Marlborough college are helping the farmers in the hayfields of Wiltshire. The war has caused a great shortage of harvest hands.

## TEXAS WILL SELL MILLION ACRES OF SCHOOL LANDS

Austin, Tex., July 22.—A list of approximately 1,000,000 acres of state school land which is to be thrown on the market on Sept. 1, 1916, has just been issued by land commissioner T. Robinson. While the bulk of this land is to be sold on condition of actual settlement, there are a large number of acres which will be sold for cash and without the actual settlement requirement. All tracts of land in whatever county, and whether surveyed or unsurveyed, which contain less than 80 acres, and also all unsurveyed tracts which are less than 400 acres, shall be sold for cash without condition of settlement and residence.

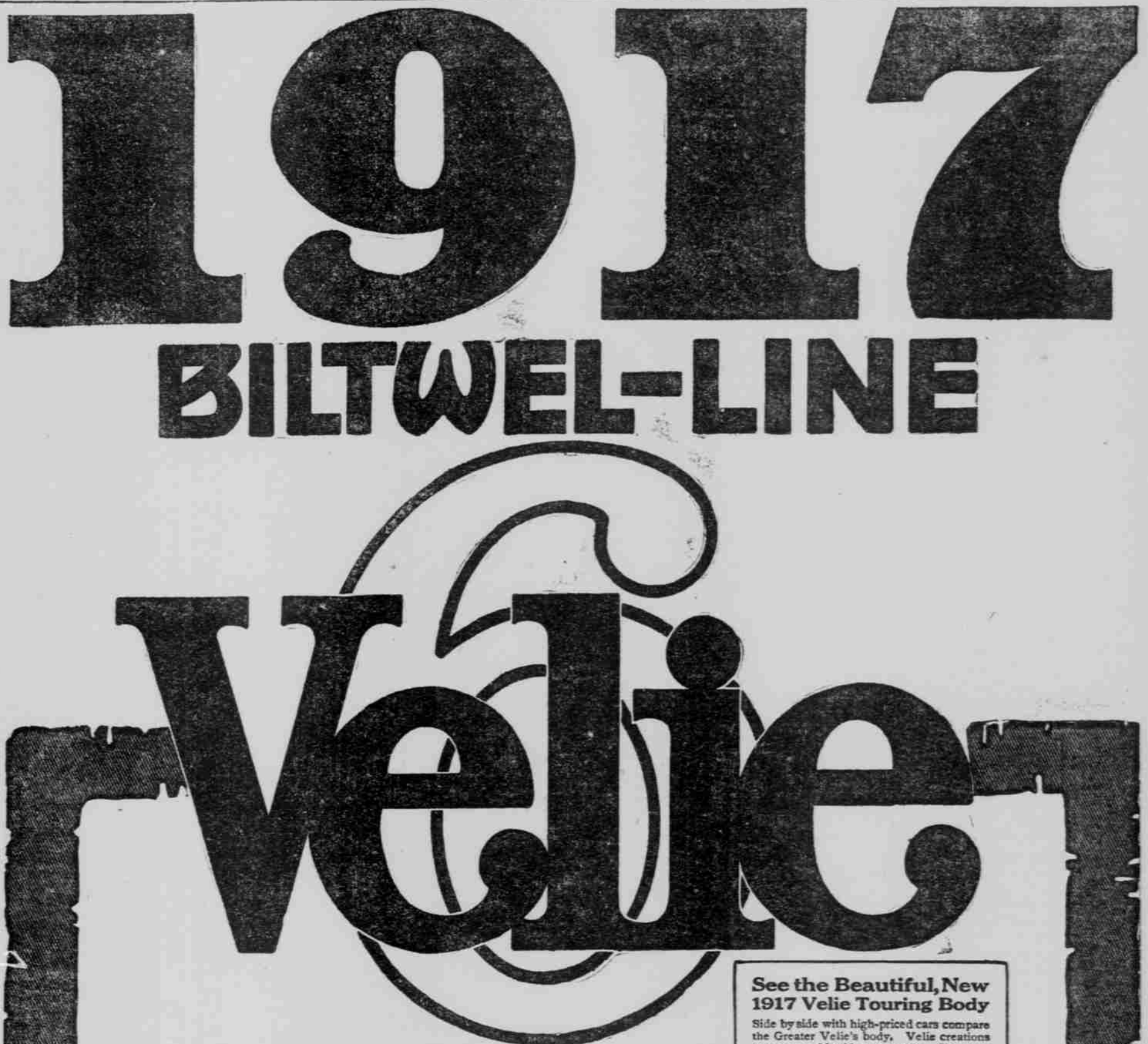
Land that is situated in the counties of Brewster, Bandera, Culberson, Crockett, Edwards, El Paso, Jeff Davis, Kerr, Kimble, Menard, Pecos, Presidio, Rock, Terrell and Val Verde, may be sold in quantities not to exceed eight sections of 640 acres each to one person, without condition of settlement and residence. Applications for the purchase of this land may be filed now but these applications will not be opened until Sept. 2, and one-tenth of the price offered shall accompany the bid; purchasers are given 40 years in which to pay for such land, the deferred payments bearing 5 per cent interest. A separate application must be filed for each tract desired.

## THREE ARIZONA GIRLS GO ON THREE YEARS' TRAMP

Phoenix, Ariz., July 22.—Jennie and Neva Lewis and Lucille Riddle, aged from 16 to 18, native daughters of Arizona, and belonging to good Mesa families, have started for the Pacific coast on foot, their especial guardian a faithful bulldog.

They have an ambitious program to visit the capital of every state and to add the signature of its governor to a letter of endorsement secured from Gov. Hunt. This they believe will take three years, when they expect to return "full of geography and experience" as one of their number says.

Their way is to be paid, at least partially, by the sale of Arizona postcards. Miss Duggan is to be the first objective point, the maiden then journeying to Sacramento, Salem and Olympia.



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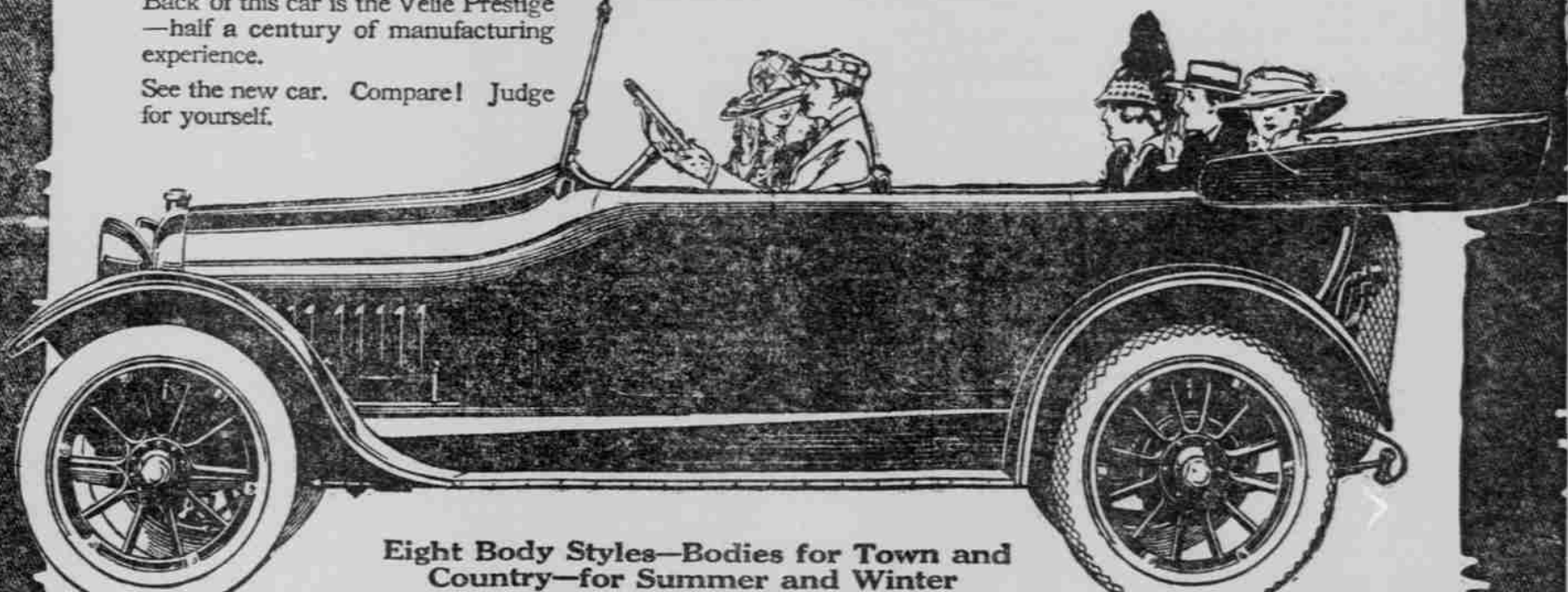
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